GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3407
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2002
TERRORIST HIDING IN MOSQUES
RAJO SINGH

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of incidents in which terrorists were found hiding in mosques during the last three years and till date, State-wise; and

(b) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure that terrorists do not seak protection in the mosques?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH.VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a): As per information available, the number of cases in which terrorists were detected taking shelter in mosques in Jammu and Kashmir during the last three years are given below:

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1999 -  Nil
2000 -  Nil
2001 -  5
2002 -  6 (upto July 18, 2002)
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(b): Security forces have the latitude to deal with such emerging situations based on the ground level exigencies of each particular case and to plan their operations in such a way that minimum possible damage to religious structures takes place without compromising the objective of the operation.